

Abstract of the Disclosure

In many situations, it is desirable to restrict access to digital content. This invention presents an extremely efficient and simple method and apparatus to 5 degrade and recover digital content. The invented process is based upon searching the data for detection criteria and then adjusting neighboring point(s) to degrade the content, or re-adjusting the neighboring point(s) to recover the original content. For example, 10 one could search for threshold crossings, and scale the following point by a number between 0 and 1 for degradation, or re-scale the following point by the inverse scaling value to recover the original data. The apparatus includes a logic processor and storage unit 15 to implement the degradation and recovery process.